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MONTANA LABOR MARKET

Monthly Review of EMPLOYMENT OUTLOOK, LABOR SUPPLY, LABOR DEMAND, CURRENT EMPLOYMENT

MONTANA STATE EMPLOYMENT SERVICE Division of Unemployment Compensation Commission of Montana

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FL. 241

COLUMN TO SERVICE

MAY, 1963

April Employment Total Shows Increase of 4,500

The seasonal upswing in a variety of Montana labor markets got underway in earnest in April. The employment upsurge added 4,500 workers to the state's industrial and commercial payrolls from March to April. This brought the April total of non-farm employment to 167,200. It was an increase of 1,700 wage earners over the April, 1962 employment figure. Every month so far this year has set a record in the number of non-farm workers employed in comparison with the same month of the past 25 years.

Seasonal Patterns Active

The employment gain over March is largely the result of seasonal influences in the Montana labor market. These fairly consistent annual forces beef up employment totals in construction, lumbering and logging, retail trade, service industries, and covernment. Wet, cold weather during much of April set back the starts of some outside work in construction, agriculture, and logging. Continuing employment expansion in those industry groups unaffected by weather conditions was powerful enough to overshadow these negative patterns. As a result employment advanced in seven of the eight basic major industry groups.

Construction Heads the List

Despite intermittent weather-caused slow downs, construction contractors added 2,300 workers to April payrolls for a total working force of 10,900. This figure was 1,000 less than last April due to the completion of construction aspects at missile site installations. Main street trade establishments, gearing for summer business and tourist traf-

MONTANA INDUSTRY PROVIDED 21,000 NEW JOBS FROM 1950 TO 1962

The following table shows employment changes in the State's eight basic industry groups for the twelve years from 1950 to 1962.

	Employment Change from 1950-1962		Employment Change from 1950-1962
Manufacturing+	4,000 (22.2%)	Trade+	2,700 (7.4%)
Mining — — Construction — + Trans. and Utilities —	1,800 (12.3%)	and Real Estate + Service and Miscel + Government +	4,500 (23.3%)

Although Montana lost 7,200 jobs in two basic industry groups from 1950 to 1962—mining, down 3,300; and the transportation and utilities group, down 3,900 in the twelve year period—employment growth in six other industries was strong enough to show a net gain of 21,000 jobs. Government employment with a numerical advance of 12,600 workers heads the list. This increment accounted for 60 per cent of the total gain from 1950 to 1962. Other employment gains in order were: Service Industries. up 4,500: Manufacturing, up 4,000; Trade, up 2,700; Finance, Insurance and Real Estate, up 2,600; and Construction, up 1,800.

The 7,200 job losses in mining, and the transportation and utilities group is tied chiefly to automation, technological changes and employer economies.

From 1961 to 1962 industrial employment advanced by 2,900, despite some decline in four major inudstry groups. Manufacturing employment was up 1,600 chiefly because of missile installation work; other gains were in construction, up 1,000; government, up 900; and service industries, up 400. Employment declines occurred in trade, down 400; transportation and utilities, down 300; mining, down 200; and finance, insurance and real estate, down 100.

fic, hired 1,200. Other employment gains in April were in government, up 900; mining, up 200; transportation, communications, and utilities, finance, insurance and real estate, and the service industries were each up 100. Manufacturing was the only industry which

failed to keep pace. The spring breakup in the lumber industry which depresses employment in logging and sawmills about six weeks of every year was about over but still had some grip on the industry. The result was a loss of 300 workers from March.

LABOR TURNOVER RATES IN MANUFACTURING AND MINING INDUSTRIES (per 100 employees)

(Compiled in cooperation with U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics)

	ACCESSION RATE							SEPARATION RATE								
INDUSTRY	Total		N	New Hire			Total			Quit			Layoff			
INDUSTRI	1) Mar 1963	2) Feb. 1963	Mar. 1962	Mar. 1963	Feb. 1963	Mar. 1962	Маг. 1963	Feb. 1963	Mar. 1962	Mar. 1963	Feb. 1963	Mar. 1962	Mar. 1963	Feb. 1963	Mar. 1962	
3) All Manufacturing Durable Goods Primary Metal	4.5 4.0	2.5 2.3	4.3 5.3 5.3	2.5 2.8 1.3	1.6 1.8 1.0	2.6 3.1 2.4	3.9 4.6 2.7	3.5 4.1 2.6	4.3 5.1 2.0	1.9 1.9 1.1	1.7	1.4 1.6 .8	1.4 2.0 .7	1.0 1.3 .2	1.5 2.0 .5	
3) Nondurable Goods All Mining	2.7 9.9 5. 8	6.2 5.7	2.3 5.6 5.3	1.7 4.1 2.0	1.1 3.9 2.8	1.7 2.4 1.2	2.3 9.0 7.6	2.3 6.4 8.1	2.7 6.3 5.3	4 b 4.1	3.4 3.8	2.6 2.1	3.0 1.4	.5	1.7 1.7	

¹⁾ Preliminary rates ased on all data available at publication time. 2) Figures revised on more complete returns. 3) Excludes sugar and canning industries. Total separations include discharges and miscellaneous separations. *Less than .05

Along the Hiring Line—Field Summary April 1

ANACONDA, Deer Lodge, Philipsburg—357 jobseckers, 74 new, 226 men, 131 women). Area economy on fairly good basis but hiring in industry and farm down from fast year. Smelter employment keeps close to 2,300; workers idled by shutdown of some plant units transferred to others. Closure of Philipsburg lumber mill and a mining company depressing employment outlook in that area. Farm labor demand below last year.

BILLINGS, Columbus, Hardin, Laurel, Red Lodge, Roundup—(3,022 jobseekers, 960 new, 2,206 men, 816 women). Wet weather had some effect on labor market trends during April but employment expansion continued in most industries. Construction, however, was still at the top of the hiring agenda. Trade industry hiring keeps at normal seasonal levels, but good upswing noted in service establishments gearing for tourist season. Hiring trends in railroads, oil fields, and coal mining not too promising. Optimism prevails on the farm front with early season rains. Farm labor demand good with no significant labor shortages.

BOZEMAN, Ennis, Three Forks, Trident —(301 jobseekers, 310 new, 195 men, 106 women). Building and highway construction at good pace with more employment expansion next 30-60 days. Logging still slowed by weather but full scale operations expected by mid-May. Trade and service perking up with opening of Yellowstone Park and resort areas. Fairly steady trends in manufacturing. Brisk farm labor demand with some worker shortages existing.

BI 171. Virginia City, Whiteball—(713 lobseckers, 331 new, 368 men, 345 women). Labor market trends generally good in all mdustries, paced by mining and construction. Sixteen more ARA trained miners employed. Highway construction projects expanding working forces as season advances. Slight rise noted in farm job orders. Insuration of construction and farm workers starting.

(11 BANK - (374 jobseekers, 86 new, 289 men, 85 women). Construction provided most April job openings with work on city streets, water line, and road building projects. Some upturn noted in oil field activities. Trade and service volume shows little change. Farm hiring equals last year.

DILLON -(108 jobseekers, 82 new, 60 nam 48 women). Good agenda of construction in progress with work on Clark Canyon Dain and facilities the major item. New projects it clude \$72,000 airport administration building road and bridge work. Some nervas noted in main street labor demand. Show in I rath delayed some farm field work but pool labor demand expected throughout May

LABOR MARKET INDICATORS

1963 Apr.	1963 Mar.	1962 Apr.	1954-63 Apr. Avg
167,200	162,700	165,500	160,800
4,350	3,490	4,941	3,755
12,642	15,510	14,185	13,429
May 3 1963	Apr. 5 1963	May 5 1962	Avg. 1st May Wk. 1959-63
573	864	474	713
5,354	8,084	5,155	7,617
5,927	8,948	5,629	8,330
	Apr. 167,200 4,350 12,642 May 3 1963 573 5,354	Apr. Mar. 167,200 162,700 4,350 3,490 12,642 15,510 May 3 Apr. 5 1963 1963 573 864 5,354 8,084	Apr. Mar. Apr. 167,200 162,700 165,500 4,350 3,490 4,941 12,642 15,510 14,185 May 3 Apr. 5 May 5 1963 1963 1962 573 864 474 5,354 8,084 5,155

GLASGOW, Fort Peck, Malta, Opheim—(330 jobseekers, 68 new, 199 men, 131 women). About 100 employed on new construction including irrigation plant, new school, and addition to air base officers club. Wet weather delayed some construction work and held back new hiring. Main street hiring trends not too active. Farm labor demand receded as weather worsened.

GLENDIVE, Circle, Wibaux—(227 jobseekers, 62 new, 136 men, 91 women). Bad weather throughout April curbed most outside work and oil drilling operations. Work on two building projects continued with little delay. Farm work hampered by wet fields; livestock care, sheep shearing, calving, and lambing main activities. Current shortage of single farm hands expected to expand as season advances.

GREAT FALLS, Choteau, Fort Benton, Stanford—(1,733 jobseekers, 864 new, 1,234 men, 549 wonnen). Start of spring work scason behind schedule chiefly because of unsettled weather. New job applications exceed last year by sizable margin. Hiring by construction contractors expected to make good showing during May. Main street hiring on uncertain schedules. Good employment demand expected to develop in most major industry groups during May.

HAMILTON, Stevensville—(248 jobseekers, 86 new, 174 men, 74 women). Woods workers comprised the bulk of April unemployed as spring breakup conditions still held a grip on the logging industry. Most experienced workers in clerical, sales, construction, and agriculture have returned to work. Farm labor demand about the same as last year; Arizona and Texas workers arriving for sugar beet field work.

HAVRE, Chinook, Harlem—(229 jobseekers, 66 new, 170 men, 59 women). Area labor market trends not too bright due to lack of major construction projects and the windup of some area farm work. \$2 million high school building only major project. Main street hiring lags for this time of year. Completion of some public work program projects idled 120; leaving but 24 employed. Farm labor demand slowing down.

HELENA, Boulder, Garrison, Townsend, White Sulphur Springs—(536 jobscekers, 184 new, 341 men, 195 women). Labor demand started to spark up at mid-April in most industries with the exception of logging and sawmills. Work shortages were evident in sales, clerical, and some service industry classifications. About 300 men now employed on building and road projects in area. New starts include \$150,000 street paving project. Trade activity above average in most establishments. Farm labor demand up with shortage of irrigators forecast during May.

KALISPELL, Columbia Falls, Eureka, Litby, Whitefish—(1,452 jobseekers, 277 new, 1,161 men. 291 women). Uncomployment dropped sharply as hiring increased in construction, lumber manufacturing, and trade and service industries. Logging still not at maximum but good recovery from a spring breakup occurred. Most area sawmills at peak capacity but some smaller mills on short work weeks. Some upswing noted in farm labor demand.

LEWISTOWN, Harlowton, Ryegate, Winnet—(277 jobseekers, 79 new, 196 men, 81 women). Industry and farm hiring above last month but below last year. Completion of some phases of missile site work idled 350 workers with most leaving for other areas. Work progresses on new hotel, home building, and highway projects. Farm labor demand fairly active.

LIVINGSTON, Big Timber—(313 jobseckers, 38 new, 192 men, 121 women). Job hires 14% below April, 1962, with most of decline in construction and trade and service industries. Logging still in throes of spring breakup with sawmills on short crews. I rade and service hiring not too sharp when matched against last year's demand because of travel to Seattle World's Fair. Recall of workers to Yellowstone Park countinues weekly. Farm labor demand making good showing.

MHLES CITY, Baker, Ekalaka, Broadus, Jordan, Terry—(183 jobseckers, 79 new, 134 men, 49 women). Labor market activity slower than usual chiefly because of insettled weather. No major construction in progress at present but several projects

NINE YEARS OF MONTANA INDUSTRIAL EMPLOYMENT TOTALS, BY MONTHS (in Thousands)

	lan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Aver.
191=	150.6	149 ()	149.6	155.6	160.7	169.2	170.6	172.9	171.7	168.3	164.7	162.7	162.1
1976	1500	154.4	156.3	163.0	169.3	177.4	177.4	179.8	177.2	174.6	170.4	166.7	168.6
1957	1500	155.0	156.8	161.3	166.0	172.0	174.2	174.2	170.8	167.4	163.2	159.9	164.8
10	1531	150.3	150.5	156.4	162.4	167.1	170.2	172.2	170.0	168.8	165.8	162.4	162.4
1 24	155 1	153.2	155.9	162.2	167.5	174.0	177.5	179.2	169.9	165.6	161.5	159.4	165.1
I hara	15:17	152.5	156.1	163.5	168.4	175.8	176.9	177.7	174.8	171.6	167.5	164.5	166.7
	17.0	154.0	1561	160.2	165.1	173.3	176.0	178.1	176.8	172.4	169.0	166.2	167.1
		15- 1	1:00	165.5	170.9	179.4	178.5	177.9	175.8	174.2	172.3	169.6	170.0
	- 1 0	17.1 1	1627	165 24 4									

Along the Hiring Line-Field Summary April 1

slated to start including radar station and power plant, high school addition, and power transmission line. Trade and service trends not too active. Good volume of farm job orders.

MISSOULA, Drummond, Arlee, Superior --(1,172 jobscekers, 346 new, 830 men, 342 women). Wet weather and a labor dispute had some effect on April labor market but trends stayed good in most industries. Most loggers now back to work; lumber manufacturing plants running on two shift basis. Trade and service establishments exhibiting good directions. Farm labor demand increasing.

POLSON—(282 jobseekers, 51 new, 205 men, 77 women). April labor market demand not too active, but some calibacks of loggers, construction men, and irrigation service workers occurred. No major construction projects in area. Bids on \$100,000 sewer project to be open May 20. Farm labor demand not too encouraging.

SHELBY-(213 jobseekers, 105 new, 143 men, 70 women). Labor market patterns showing little change from last month. Job placements down 60% from last year due chiefly to delays in starting dates of major construction projects. Some encouraging signs noted in oil fields. Main street hiring not up to par. Farm labor demand behind schedule.

SIDNEY—(129 jobseekers, 47 new, 112 men, 17 women). Employment expansion evident in most major industry groups with largest gains in construction and trade and service industries. Shortages of sales, clerks and some service workers prevailed throughout April. Favorable trends in oil oriented activities to more employment expansion this summer. Some farm field work set back by wet weather.

THOMPSON FALLS, Hot Spriags—(204 jobseekers, 66 new, 179 men, 25 women). Job replacements above last year chiefly because of hiring for public work projects, which accounted for nearly half of April's hiring. Smaller building projects provided some job openings. Logging slowly returning to normal schedules after spring breakup. Increasing labor demand noted on the farm front.

WOLF POINT, Plentywood, Scobey-(189 jobseekers, 44 new, 143 men, 46 women). Construction off to slow start because of bad weather but several highway and building projects began. Main street hiring on upswing with good demand for workers in cafes, service stations, and farm implement firms. Some decline noted in oil field work as two exploration crews left the area. Farm labor demand best in several years.

- (1) Estimates include all full and part-time wage and salary workers who worked or received pay during the pay period ending nearest the 15th of the month. Proprietors, firm members, personnel of the armed forces, domestic servants, and self-employed persons are excluded.
- (2) Preliminary estimates based on return from samples of 1,304 selected Montana establishments.
- (3) Figures previously released have been revised on return from 903 such establishments.
- (4) Includes fabricated metal products, ma-chinery except electrical, furniture, stone chinery except ele-and clay products.
- Includes apparel, chemicals, and laneous manufacturing products. and miscel-

ESTIMATED EMPLOYMENT IN NON-AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES IN MONTANA (1)

	EN.	PLOYMEN	IT :	Net Change
INDUSTRY	Apr.	Mar. 1963 (3)	Apr. 1962	Mar. '63 Apr. '6' to to Apr. '63 Apr. '6'
NON-AGRICULTURAL INDUSTRIES	167,200	162,700	165,500	4,590 1,70
Manufacturing	21,100	21,500	20,000	400 1,10
Durable goods	14,200	14,600	12,900	- 400 1,30
Lumber and timber products Primary metals Other (4)	7,500 3,200 3,500	3,200	7,100 3,600 2,200	00 40
Nondurable goods	6,900	ĺ	7,100	i i
Food and kindred products	3,700 1,700 1,000 500	1,700 1,000	3,700 1,600 1,100 700	$\begin{bmatrix} 00 \\ 00 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 10 \\ 10 \end{bmatrix}$
Mining	7,600 4,200 900 2,500	4,200 800	6,800 4,000 700 2,100	100 20 100 20 100 40
Contract Construction	10,900 2,500 4,500 3,900	2,100 2,600	11,900 2,900 4,900 4,100	
Transportation and utilities	17,200 7,600 3,800 5,800	7,600 3,800	17,700 7,900 3,900 5,900	100 — 50 00 — 30 00 — 10 100 — 10
Trade	39,100 8,300 30,800 6,000 4,700 7,600 6,300 6,200	8,000 29,900 5,800 4,700 7,000 6,300	38,900 8,100 30,800 5,900 4,900 7,600 6,200 6,200	600 - 20 600 0 00 10
Finance, insurance and real estate	6,800	6,700	6,600	
Services and miscellaneous	23,300 2,600 2,000 18,700	2,600 2,000	23,100 2,500 1,900 18,700	100 20
Government	41,200 10,700 30,500	10,100	40,500 10,500 30,000	600, 20 300, 50
Great Falls Area (Cascade County) Manufacturing Contract construction Transportation and utilities Trade, wholesale and retail Finance, Insurance, Real Estate Services and miscellaneous (7) Government	23,600 5,100 2,000 2,000 5,700 1,200 3,600 4,000	5,200 1,900 2,000 5,600 1,200 3,600	23,000 3,000 3,000 2,100 5,500 1,200 3,500 4,100	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$
Billings Area (Yellowstone County) Manufacturing Contract construction Transportation and utilities Trade, wholesale and retail. Finance, Insurance, Real Estate Services and Miscellaneous (7) Government	22,300 2,300 1,100 2,500 7,200 1,300 4,200 3,700	2,300- 1,000 2,400 7,000 1,300 4,100	22,400 2,400 1,200 2,600 7,300 1,300 4,100 3,500	$ \begin{vmatrix} 100 - & 10 \\ 100 - & 10 \\ 200' - & 10 \\ 00' & 0 \\ 100' & 10 \\ 00 & 20 \end{vmatrix} $

⁽⁶⁾ Includes commercial trade schools, auto rerequires commercial trade schools, auto repair services and garages, miscellaneous repair services and hand trades, motion pictures, amusements and recreation, medical and health, law offices and professional services, non-profit membership or-

ganizations and businesses not otherwise classified.

⁽⁷⁾ Same as (6) above. Also includes hotels, rooming houses, camps, personal services and mining.

COMPARISON OF BASIC LABOR MARKET ACTIVITIES IN APRIL 1963 AND APRIL 1962

Employment	Nev	Job A	A pplica	ints	Job	seeker	s in F	ile			J	ob Pla	cem en t				UI CI	
Service	Apr.	1963	Apr.	1962	Apr.	1963	Apr.	1962		Apr.	1963			Apr.	1962		Wk.	5-3
Office	Tot.	Vet.	Tot.	Vet.	Tot.	Vet.	Tot.	Vet.	Ind.	Ag.	Tot.	Vet.	Ind.	Ag.	Tot.	Vet.	1963	1962
	74		127	18	357	49	289	44	5.3	12	0.5	17	90	37	133	48	173	131
Anaconda	960	188	1.365	244	3,022	7.27	3,638	581	579	341	920	268	586	419	1.005	338	1.026	963
Billings	310	47	202	38	301	52	433	90	143	116	259	40	180	114	294	78	148	169
Butte	3.31	51	266	40	713	124	1,038	224	128	20	154	40	182	7	189	74	457	503
ut Bank	86	28	111	3.5	374	106	239	87	69	7.3	142	64	87	83	170	69	102	93
Dillon	82	27	102	38	108	12	115	13	37	196	233	88	59	182	241	130	104	53
Masgow	68	7	147	2.3	3.30	46	282	52	64	76	140	21	153	94	247	74	156	153
Hendive	62	{}	105	1.3	227	.3.5	275	4.3	82	47	120	17	105	22	127	32	58	5.5
ireat Falls	864	220	671	139	1.783	451	1.778	409	301	227	528	126	496	250	752	230	770	
lamilton	86	12	100	()	248	40	351	63	7.2	40	118	54	00	5.5	124	.3.8	135	156
lavre	üθ	.3	137	()	220	.38	355	. 06	61	127	188	76	114	162	256	88	130	132
lelena	184	20	268	32	536	136	550	106	195	11	272	103	190	7.1	261	102	324	295
Kalispell	277	56	207	36	1,452	408	1.721	461	196	34	230	57	143	29	172	41	905	835
cwistown	79	12	99	19	277	70		44	20	91	147	51	102	102	204	54	158	128
_ivingston	83	7	100	14	313	5.3	321	19	71	42 100	109	31	.78	31	109	37	158	135
Miles City	79	12		13	183	47	143	214	218	68	171 286		112	127	239	38	108	-88
lissoula	340	56	509	87	1,172 <u> </u> 282	271' 58.	336	69	35	32		17	299 82	65 125	364 207	135 78	518	572
?olson	51	3	118	11 37	213	54 54	289	73	46	75	121	32	108	352	460	67	147- 85	159
Shelby	105	34	36	27	129	2.2	130	25	50	60	119	25	44	352 45	400	1S.	2.00	- 95 - 66
Sidney Falls	66	26	31	0	204	60	230	70	80	16	96	30	52	- 8	60	26	105	132
Volf Point	44	13	76	10	189	37	283	60	20	48	68	15	38	32	70	18	117	127
TOH TOHIC		19	7.0	117		• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	=1747			1	1111	1.2	1 1	e * no	717	10	11/	127
TOTALS	4,350	852	4,981		12,642	2.902	14.185	2.870	2,632	-1.930	4,562	1,245	3,355	2,418	5.773	1.813	 5,927	5.629 - 5.629
101 V19	4,2,2,1	٠٠.٠	1. ^.1	1 107	, ,	_,					.,	11	1	-, , , , ,	1	101101	1 ., /-/	1

^{*}Includes 385 claims of the Fed. UC Program 219 same a year ago.

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN SELECTED MONTANA INDUSTRIES

(Produced in co-operation with United States Bureau of Labor Statistics) (Hours and earnings data exclude administrative and salaried personnel)

	Average	Weekly 1	Earnings	Averag	ge Weekly	Hours	Average Hourly Earnings		
INDUSTRY	Apr. (1) 1963	Mar. (2) 1963	Apr. 1962	Apr. (1) 1963	Mar. (2) 1963	Apr. 1962	Apr. (1) 1963	Mar. (2) 1963	Apr. 1962
All Manufacturing	\$109.88	\$109.34	\$100.74	41.0	40.8	39.2	2.68	2.68	2.57
Durable goods	110,09	109 67	95.01	41.7	41.7	39.1	2.64	2.63	2,43
Primary metals Nondurable goods	103,34 108,81	102.44 107.90	103.72 112.79	39,9 39,0	39.4 38.4	40,2 39,3	2.59 2.79	2.60 2.81	2.58 2.87
Food and kindred products	94.30	94.33	95.34	40.3	39.8	40.4	2.34	2.37	2,36
All Mining	117.02	111.79	111.34	42.4	41.1	41.7	2.76	2.72	2.67
Metal mining	105.88	105.88	106 77	38.5	38.5	39.4	2.75	2.75	271
Transportation and Utilities (except Rys.) Transportation (except railroads). Utilities and communications	NA NA 97.06	NA NA 99,72	NA NA 97,22	NA NA 38.0	NA NA 38.8	NA NA 39.2	NA NA 2.57	NA NA 2 57	XA XA 2.48

⁽¹⁾ Preliminary estimates. (2) Figures previously released have been revised on more complete returns.

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